REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested. Entry of this Amendment Under Rule 116 is merited as it raises no new issues and requires no further search.

Claims 1-34, 36-46, 48-52, 54-58, and 60 remain pending. Claims 35, 47, 53, and 59 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 31, 43, 49, and 55 have been amended to incorporate similar features from, respectively, dependent claims 35, 47, 53, and 59, which have been indicated to contain allowable subject matter.

The indication of allowance with respect to claims 1-30 and 37-42 is noted with appreciation. The indication of allowable subject matter with respect to claims 32-36, 44-48, 50-54, and 56-60 is noted with appreciation.

Amended claims 31, 43, 49, and 55 are not anticipated by Gulick (US 6,968,460)

The rejection of claims 31, 43, 49, and 55 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Gulick is believed overcome in view of the foregoing amendments incorporating subject matter similar to the indicated allowable subject matter of claims dependent therefrom and the rejection is respectfully requested to be withdrawn.

Early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is courteously solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

CONCLUSION

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application should be in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 08-2025 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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RAN/